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## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2007**

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices increased significantly as exporters are securing white rice for shipments to the Philippines. Also, Thailand is expected to win a portion of the Indonesia tender next week. In addition, new enquiries are reportedly strong from Iraq for seasonal demand after Ramadan.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Sep. 17):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	560	565	560	555	580	537	550	558	558
WR 100 B	331	335	338	334	325	333	332	333	330
PB 5%	324	343	336	333	319	333	325	330	329
WR 5%	321	330	335	329	315	325	327	326	323
WR 10%	315	325	330	323	310	321	322	321	319
WR 15%	312	320	325	317	306	315	317	316	313
WR 25%	303	300	-	314	302	308	312	307	305
WR 35%	300	-	-	-	-	304	-	302	298
A 1 SUP	279	-	-	267	270	283	270	274	271
A 1 SPEC	276	-	-	264	267	-	267	269	266
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 34.0 baht/U.S.\$									

**Market Tone**

Export and domestic prices increased significantly due to strong demand from foreign buyers. Low-grade white rice prices continued to increase as exporters are aggressively securing low-grade white rice supplies for shipment to the Philippines. Meanwhile, the Government decided last week to release 319,000 tons (302,000 tons for exports and 16,715 tons for domestic sales) out of the re-tender of 558,598 tons (513,495 tons for exports and 45,103 tons for domestic sales) of 5% grade white rice acquired from a bankrupt exporter. Some tender prices were judged to be too low at 7,500 – 8,300 baht/ton (\$220-244/MT). Bidding prices were finalized at an average of 8,900 baht/ton (\$262/MT), down 2,000 baht/ton (\$60/MT) from bidding prices in 2005 when the rice was originally awarded. In addition, Thai rice exporters are expected to win a portion of the Indonesia white rice tender of 70,000 tons next week (Sep. 24), of which 50,000 tons will be 5% grade white rice, and 10,000 tons each for 10% and 15% grade white rice. Exportable supplies of Vietnamese rice are expected to be tight. Iraq is seeking quotations for 5% grade white rice of around 200,000 tons from Thailand for mid-October delivery for seasonal demand after Ramadan.

**The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):**

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	%
JUL 29	93,085	98,433	2,995	2,800	7.0
AUG 5	84,102	96,498	3,079	2,859	7.7
AUG 12	100,989	94,000	3,180	2,913	9.2
AUG 19	91,788	92,491	3,272	2,993	9.3
AUG 26	96,115	93,248	3,368	3,095	8.8
SEP 2	90,589	94,870	3,459	3,173	9.0
SEP 9	141,815	105,077	3,600	3,269	10.1
SEP 16	149,864	119,596	3,750	3,383	10.9

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Sep. 10-16, 2007 totaled 149,864 tons, up 8,049 tons from the previous week's total, and up 30,268 tons from the four-week moving average of 119,596 tons. Export during Jan. 1 – Sep. 16, 2007 totaled 3,750,324 tons, as compared with 3,383,166 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Sep. 4, 2007, amounted to 5,398,523 tons, up 11 percent from 4,863,921 tons in the previous year.

**Weekly Rice Sales**

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Aug. 27-31, Sep. 3-7, and Sep. 10-14, 2007 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Aug. 27-31	Sep. 3-7	Sep. 10-14
Weekly sales	108,381	174,509	193,359
4 week sum	340,343	418,540	529,321
4 week mov. avg.	85,086	104,635	132,330
Total weekly sales	3,650,964	3,825,473	4,018,832

End of Report.